

## **1.0 PROGRAM INFORMATION**

### **1.1 PURPOSE**

This manual provides procedures to implement the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) as prescribed in National Communications System Directive 3-1. It provides direction to all Federal agencies participating in the TSP System. It also provides direction to those organizations outside the Federal government that wish to participate in the TSP System as TSP service users.

### **1.2 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this manual are:

- To provide the necessary information for service users to comply with the TSP System requirements
- To provide a standard basis for the development of any internal policies, procedures and training that service users may establish.

### **1.3 APPLICABILITY**

This manual is binding upon the Executive Agent, National Communications System (NCS); the Manager, NCS; NCS Committee of Principals and member organizations; and other Executive entities that participate in the TSP System. All other telecommunication service users (e.g., foreign, state or local governments) who request and/or obtain a TSP assignment agree to its application by their use of the TSP System.

### **1.4 AUTHORITY**

This manual is issued under the authority of Title 47 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 64, Appendix A, "Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP);" and NCS Directive (NCSD) 3-1, "Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP)," July 5, 1990.

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- Office of Primary Responsibility: NCS-EP
  - Distribution: This document is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402.

## **1.5 GENERAL**

The TSP System was established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) when it released a Report and Order (FCC 88-341) on November 17, 1988. The Report and Order establishes the TSP System for NSEP as an amendment to Part 64 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations (Title 47 CFR, Chapter 1).

A companion document, NCSD 3-1, was signed for the Executive Office of the President by the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy; the Director, Office of Management and Budget; and the National Security Advisor, and became effective on July 5, 1990. NCSD 3-1 implements the TSP System within the Federal government, explains the legal and regulatory basis, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes policy and procedures.

As specified in both FCC 88-341 and NCSD 3-1, the FCC provides regulatory oversight of the TSP System, enforces its rules and regulations, and provides the final approval authority for TSP assignments. In FCC 88-341, the Executive Office of the President (EOP) is requested to serve as the administrator of the TSP System. In NCSD 3-1, the EOP, in turn, has directed the Manager, NCS to act on behalf of the EOP in administering the TSP System. In the event of contradictions between information contained in this manual and in NCSD 3-1, NCSD 3-1 will prevail.

This manual replaces those portions of the NSEP Telecommunications Procedures Manual, as produced by the NCS, that are applicable to service users. Details regarding service vendors' TSP System responsibilities are contained in the Service Vendor Handbook (NCS Handbook 3-1-2), a document also produced by the NCS. The Service Vendor Handbook explains vendor responsibilities within the TSP System and was approved by the FCC in a declaratory ruling on December 1, 1989.

NOTE: The "NSEP Telecommunications Procedures Manual," September 1, 1987, is superseded by this manual and the "Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System" for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Service Vendor Handbook."

## **1.6 REFERENCES**

Title 47 CFR, Part 64, Appendix A, "Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP)."

NCSD 3-1, "Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP)," July 5, 1990.

"National Plan for Telecommunications Support in Non-Wartime Emergencies," prepared by the Office of the Manager, National Communications System and approved by the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, September 1987.

## **1.7 TERMINOLOGY**

**1.7.1 NSEP Telecommunication Services.** NSEP services are telecommunication services which are used to maintain a state of readiness or to respond to and manage any event or crisis (local, national, or international), which causes or could cause injury or harm to the population, damage to or loss of property, or degrades or threatens the NSEP posture of the United States. (Only NSEP telecommunication services are eligible for TSP assignments.)

**1.7.2 TSP Assignment/Priority Level Assignment.** A TSP assignment is the priority level(s) designated for the provisioning and/or restoration of a particular NSEP service. The terms "TSP assignment" and "priority level assignment" are used interchangeably in this manual.

**1.7.3 TSP system and TSP Services.** The FCC's TSP System rules establish and NCSD 3-1 implements the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP). Both documents reference the NSEP TSP System and NSEP services. For ease of presentation this manual generally refers to the "TSP System" and "TSP services." A TSP service is an NSEP telecommunications service with a priority level assignment.

**1.7.4 TSP Program Office.** NCSD 3-1 directs the Manager, NCS to administer the TSP System on behalf of the EOP. In turn, the Manager, NCS has established a TSP Program Office to administer the TSP System on a day-to-day basis. The TSP Program Office is referred to throughout this document as the operational contact for the Manager, NCS. In these cases the TSP Program Office acts in the name of the Manager, NCS. However, for those responsibilities not assigned to the TSP Program Office, the Manager, NCS is referenced. All contact by service users with the Manager, NCS should normally be through the TSP Program Office.

**1.7.5 Service User.** A TSP service user is an individual or organization (including a service vendor) supported by a telecommunications service for which a TSP priority level has been requested and assigned. A contracting activity is the organization responsible for negotiating and awarding contracts for the telecommunication services required by a service user. Not all service users obtain their telecommunication services through contracting activities. Procedures vary among service user organizations for interacting with telecommunication service vendors or with the TSP Program Office. It is not the intent of this manual to specify where or how that interaction should take place. "Service user" is used broadly in this manual to include end users, telecommunication managers, and contracting activities. Service users are responsible for issuing their own internal documents to identify where TSP responsibilities are assigned within their organization.

**1.7.6 Prime Service Vendor.** A "prime service vendor" is a service vendor who contracts with a service user to provide a TSP service. A prime service vendor may subcontract a portion of the service to other service vendors (i.e., subcontractors). A typical example is an interexchange carrier contracting for a service, then subcontracting the local loop portions to local exchange carriers.

**1.7.7 Invocation Official.** An "invocation official" is an individual authorized to invoke NSEP treatment. Invocation officials include: the head or director of a Federal agency, commander of a unified/specified military command, chief of a military service, or commander of a major military command; or the delegates of any of the foregoing. Federal delegates may only include a general or flag officer of a military service, civilian employee of equivalent grade (e.g., Senior Executive Service member), Federal Coordinating Officer or Federal Emergency Communications Coordinator/Manager.

State Governors are authorized to invoke NSEP treatment in response to state or local disasters and/or emergencies for which no Federal participation is expected to be requested. A State Governor may delegate NSEP invocation authority to no more than five (5) senior state officials, such as the head or director of the State's Telecommunications or Emergency Management/Services agency.

The State invocation official, or the delegate, incurs no direct financial liability for the requested service, but must understand that additional costs may be incurred by invocation of NSEP treatment. The service user (e.g., State, county, or city government agency or private disaster response agency) requiring the service is responsible for ensuring that funds are available to pay any service costs related to faster than normal provisioning.

Delegates never have invocation authority by virtue of title alone, but must always be identified by the invocation official and designated as such in writing to the Manager, NCS. No Federal agency may delegate the authority to invoke NSEP treatment other than as specified in this manual.

**1.7.8 Invoking NSEP Treatment.** "Invoking NSEP treatment" refers to notification from an invocation official to a service vendor that a TSP service is so vital that it must be expeditiously provisioned. This invocation is conveyed to the service vendor by means of a service order which contains a provisioning priority in the TSP Authorization Code assigned by the TSP Program Office (see paragraph 3.6, TSP Authorization Code). The service vendor is then required to respond to that invocation expeditiously, making their best effort to meet the invocation official's service provisioning requirement. Passing the provisioning priority to the service vendor will normally result in additional charges from the service vendor for the faster than normal provisioning. Details of invocation are included in paragraph 5.1, Invocation of NSEP Treatment.

**1.7.9 Other Definitions.** Other TSP System definitions are contained in Appendix A, Glossary.

## **1.8 POLICY**

The TSP System is the regulatory, administrative, and operational system authorizing and providing for priority treatment (i.e., provisioning and restoration) of NSEP telecommunication services. As such, it establishes the framework for telecommunication service vendors to provision, restore, or otherwise act on a priority basis to ensure effective NSEP telecommunication services. No other system of telecommunication service priorities which conflicts with the TSP System is authorized.

## **1.9 EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This manual is effective immediately.

## **1.10 EXPIRATION**

This manual is in effect until superceded or cancelled.

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